

June 20, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 17982 revised manuscript.doc).

Title: Hepatitis B virus reactivation associated with antirheumatic therapy: risk and prophylaxis recommendations

Authors: Shunsuke Mori, Shigetoshi Fujiyama

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 17982

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. The manuscript has been updated according to the guidelines found in the Format for Topic Highlight document.

2. Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers.

(1) Reply to Reviewer ID number 03337012

Thank you very much for reviewing our manuscript. In response to your suggestion, we supplied the PMID numbers and DOIs for all references cited in this manuscript.

(2) Reply to Reviewer ID number 00013065

Thank you very much for reviewing our manuscript. We corrected the typographical errors that the reviewer had pointed out. In addition, the language usage in the revised manuscript has been checked by native English speaking editors who work for a professional editing service.

(3) Reply to Reviewer ID number 00181501

We greatly appreciated your suggestion. We added one section describing the mechanism of hepatitis B reactivation to the revised version (p11, line 11 – p12, line 22). Possible roles of individual drugs,

including methotrexate, steroids, and tumor necrosis factor- α inhibitors, had been described in the section “HBV reactivation in HBsAg carriers during antirheumatic therapy” in the original manuscript, but they can now be found on p13, lines 5-8; p13, lines 17-20; and p14, 3-8 of the revised version. In addition, possible roles of tocilizumab, abatacept, and rituximab were added to the revised version (p15, lines 12-17; p16, lines 2-5; p16, lines 11-18). Six references were also added (refs 65, 66, 101, 106, 108, and 109).

3. References and typesetting were corrected. We also added several up-to-date references regarding cases of HBV reactivation in association with tocilizumab and rituximab therapies (refs. 103-105, 110-112, 115, 122, and 124). Based on these additional references, new information was added to the revised version (p15, line 19 – p16, line 1; p16, lines 18-22; and Tables 3 and 4). We also made only minor alterations to patient and case numbers (p3 and p17-p20).

All of the revisions we made are highlighted in red in the revised manuscript.

4. In response to the comments of the science editor, we have provided an official language editing certificate from a professional English language editing company.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in *the World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,



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